



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 7
901 NORTH 5TH STREET
KANSAS CITY, KANSAS 66101

JAN 12 2010

Ms. Peggy Casey, Environmental Projects Engineer
Federal Highway Administration
3220 W Edgewood, Ste H
Jefferson City, MO 65109

Mr. Kevin Keith, Chief Engineer
Missouri Department of Transportation
P.O. Box 270
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Dear Ms. Casey and Mr. Keith:

RE: Review Final Environmental Impact Statement, East Columbia
Transportation Project- City of Columbia, Boone County, MO FHWA-
MO-EIS-09-02-F, MoDOT Job Number: J5S0636

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has reviewed the East Columbia Final Environmental Impact Statement. Our review is provided pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act 42 U.S.C. 4231, Council on Environmental Quality regulations 40 C.F.R. Parts 1500-1508, and Section 309 of the Clean Air Act. The FEIS was assigned the CEQ number 20090431.

It appears that the suggestions presented in our May 13, 2009 DEIS comment letter have been considered and incorporated into the FEIS. EPA thanks you for addressing these observations.

The only comment EPA would like to make on the FEIS pertains to the finding of four prehistoric habitation sites that were located during the archaeological survey. Section IV.B.4, page IV-14 states that "the recommendations from the SHPO approval are environmental commitments of the EC-EIS." However, the recommendations regarding the archaeological sites are not listed in the Summary, Section J, pages S-10 thru S-12, as one of the environmental commitments. EPA recommends including the SHPO's recommendations and MoDOT's commitment in the appropriate section in the Record of Decision.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments regarding this project and your FEIS. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at 913-551-7565 or

via email at tucker.amber@epa.gov or you may contact Joseph Cothorn, NEPA Team Leader at (913) 551-7148 or via email at cothorn.joe@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Amber Tucker".

Amber Tucker
NEPA Reviewer
Environmental Services Division